

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An automotive working machine having an automotive vehicle body provided [[in]] on left and right front wheels and left and right rear wheels, a boom liftably mounted on said vehicle body, a working tool rotatably supported on a fore end portion of said boom, and a tool operating cylinder located between said boom and said working tool at one and the other axial end thereof to turn said working tool in upward and downward directions relative to said boom, characterized in that said automotive working machine comprises:

a boom mounting member provided on the back side of said working tool, on the side of said vehicle body, and having a boom connecting portion pivotally connected to said fore end portion of said boom, along with a cylinder mounting member having a cylinder connecting portion pivotally connected to the other end of said tool operating cylinder; and

protective projections provided on said cylinder mounting member and projected from the back side of said working tool toward said vehicle body to protect said other end of said tool operating cylinder from obstacles on a ground surface when said vehicle body is put in travel with said boom in a folded position on the side of the ground;

wherein said protective projections are bent in an obliquely upward direction from a cylinder connecting portion of said cylinder mounting member toward said tool operating cylinder.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) An automotive working machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said protective projections are each in the form of an arcuate projection extending toward said tool operating cylinder and bent arcuately about a boom connecting portion of said boom mounting member at the back of said working tool.

5. (Original) An automotive working machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said protective projections are formed separately from said cylinder mounting member and detachably attached to said cylinder mounting member.

6. (Previously presented) An automotive working machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said protective projections are constituted by a pair of right and left plate-like members

adapted to grip the other end of said tool operating cylinder therebetween.

7. (Currently amended) An automotive working machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said tool operating cylinder is constituted by a tube having one axial end thereof connected to said boom, a piston slidably fitted in said tube, and a rod having one axial end thereof connected to said piston and projected out of said tube at the other axial end to connect to the sylinder cylinder connecting portion of said sylinder cylinder mounting member;

    said protective projections being adapted to protect the other projected end of said rod.

8. (Original) An automotive working machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said boom is provided with an outer boom of hollow tubular shape being liftably connected to said vehicle body at a base end portion, and an inner boom being extensibly fitted in said outer boom and provided with a cylinder mounting portion on a fore end portion thereof;

    a boom cylinder being located outside of said outer boom and having a base end portion thereof attached to said outer

boom and a fore end portion supported on said cylinder mounting portion on said inner boom; and

    said outer boom being provided with an opening in a fore end portion to accommodate said cylinder mounting portion in a retracted position inward of a fore end of said outer boom when said inner boom is retracted into said outer boom.

9. (Original) An automotive working machine as defined in claim 8, wherein said outer boom is composed of a tubular body for accommodating said inner boom, and a box-like frame body securely attached to a fore end of said tubular body, said frame body defining therein said opening in a corresponding position relative to said cylinder mounting portion of said inner boom.